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S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 SANAA 003170

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TAGS: [AMGT](#) [ASEC](#) [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [YM](#) [EAC](#) [COUNTER](#) [TERRORISM](#)

SUBJECT: SANAA EAC MEETING 12/28/2004

Classified By: Charge Nabeel Khoury, for reasons 1.4 (b) (c) and (d).

1. (S/NF) Begin Summary: The Charge convened a core EAC meeting on December 28, 2004, to share information regarding the recent attempt to attack Embassy personnel and to assess recent threat information. Embassy employees were reminded to remain vigilant in light of recent threat reporting and to report all security related incidents immediately to the RSO. EAC members noted no current additional specific threats against Embassy Sanaa. Key offices and personnel represented included: CDA, FPD, OMC, RMAS, POL/ECON ,MO, CCE, DAO, AID, PD, LEGATT and RSO. END SUMMARY.

2. (C) The Charge began the discussion with a review of the details concerning the recent attempt to attack Embassy personnel during a Christmas Eve dinner at an Embassy residence. Charge commended the Ambassador's bodyguards and Yemeni CSF members who foiled the attempt and apprehend the perpetrators. Charge shared information provided by the Minister of the Interior to include the arrest of the perpetrator who admitted to wishing to hurt "foreigners" and to having at least two possible collaborators. The Embassy expects a full report from the MOI on the ongoing investigation. A request by the Embassy to participate in the interrogation is currently under consideration. Charge stressed that that EAC members should not discuss this matter or any details concerning the ongoing investigation in order not to jeopardize efforts for additional arrests in the case. Charge emphasized the need for communication and information sharing between EAC members and stressed and stressed the need for each section to constantly review their personal security measures.

3. (S/NF) RSO reviewed efforts to increase counter-surveillance measures around Embassy residences and consideration is being given to moving those Embassy personnel whose residences are in more vulnerable areas.

4. (U) LEGATT noted that due the fact no American American security officials are directly involved in the investigation, the information received by the Embassy from Yemeni security officials may not be totally accurate. LEGATT suggested strong pressure on the MOI to allow American investigators access to suspects connected to the case as soon as possible for questioning. LEGATT added that although no connection may exist, the end of the year has typically been a time in Yemen where attacks against westerners occur.

5. (S/NF) EAC members discussed general security precautions. RMAS added that community members should not rely solely on host government security but should make assessments and take an active interest in there own personal security. RMAS also emphasized the need to have primary and secondary means of communications and recommended a test of the Embassy phone tree system in the near future.

6. (S/NF) EAC members agreed that recent events did not warrant cancellation of the Embassy New Year's party to be held on the Embassy compound or restriction of travel throughout the country. The Charge concluded the EAC meeting by reminding members to be vigilant in observing their environment and reporting any unusual developments or changes near their residences to the RSO. The implications of recent events will be further reviewed as more information comes in. EAC and Washington will be informed accordingly.

KRAJESKI